

Northwest Fisheries Science Center
Fish Ecology Division
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September 7, 2005

MEMORANDUM FOR: F/NWR3 - Leslie Schaeffer

FROM: F/NWC3 - John W. Ferguson

SUBJECT: Request for Modification of ESA Permit
#1322, Modification 3 To Integrate Coho
Salmon Listing Status Change

We request modification of ESA Section 10 Permit #1322, Modification 3, titled "Estuarine habitat and juvenile salmon - Current and historic linkages in the lower Columbia River and estuary", to incorporate coho salmon take as a result of recent changes to ESA listing status for this species in the Columbia River. The request affects Section A, Take Descriptions and/or Levels, of the Permit; all other sections of the application remain unchanged.

The purpose of this research is to determine presence and abundance of fall and spring Chinook salmon, coho and chum salmon in the estuary and lower Columbia River, and to determine the relationship between juvenile salmon and habitat that will serve as a basis for estuarine restoration and preservation plans. The numbers of coho salmon were selected based on the maximum the study design would allow, which equals the combined approved numbers in Oregon and Washington State collection permits for this study (450 direct mortality, and 350 capture/handle/release). The attached table shows the estimated listed proportion of coho salmon take by type and life history stage based on information provided in the revised estimation memorandum entitled "Revised Estimation of Percentages for Listed Pacific Salmon and Steelhead Smolts Arriving at Various Locations in the Columbia River Basin in 2005 Based on June 2005 Changes in Listing Status", dated August 24, 2005. We request that these numbers be added to the existing take table so that coho salmon take is covered under Permit #1322, Modification 3.

This study is designed to catch juvenile salmon only, some of which are sacrificed, measured, weighed then frozen for later

laboratory analyses (genetics, lipids, disease, parasite, age and growth, and feeding). Appropriate take categories for each of these actions is included in the attached table.

If you have any questions concerning this request, please contact Susan Hinton at (503) 861-1818.

Attachment

cc: F/NWC3 - Casillas
F/NWC3 - Frick
F/NWC3 - Gores
F/NWC3 - Hinton

Table 1. Estimated annual take descriptions of recently ESU-listed coho salmon during the study entitled "Estuarine habitat and juvenile salmon - Current and historic linkages in the lower Columbia River and estuary", ESA permit #1322 Mod. #3. N/A = not applicable.

ESU/Species	Origin	Life Stage	Take Activity	Number of Fish Authorized to Take	Requested Authorized Unintentional Mortality	Research Location	Research Period
Lower Columbia River (LCR) Coho salmon	Wild	Juvenile	Capture, handle, release	18	1	Lower Columbia River and estuary	January - December
LCR Coho salmon	Wild	Juvenile	Intentional mortality	23	N/A	Lower Columbia River and estuary	January - December
LCR Coho salmon	Hatchery	Juvenile	Capture, handle, release	210	2	Lower Columbia River and estuary	January - December
LCR Coho salmon	Hatchery	Juvenile	Intentional mortality	270	N/A	Lower Columbia River and estuary	January - December